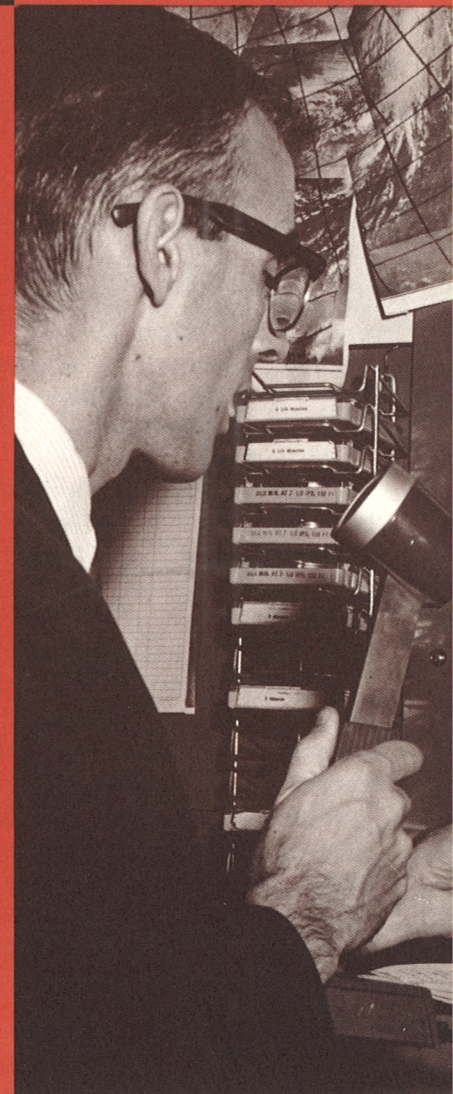


A UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE
PUBLICATION



NOAA VHF RADIO WEATHER

U. S.
DEPARTMENT
OF
COMMERCE
National
Oceanic and
Atmospheric
Administration
National
Weather
Service

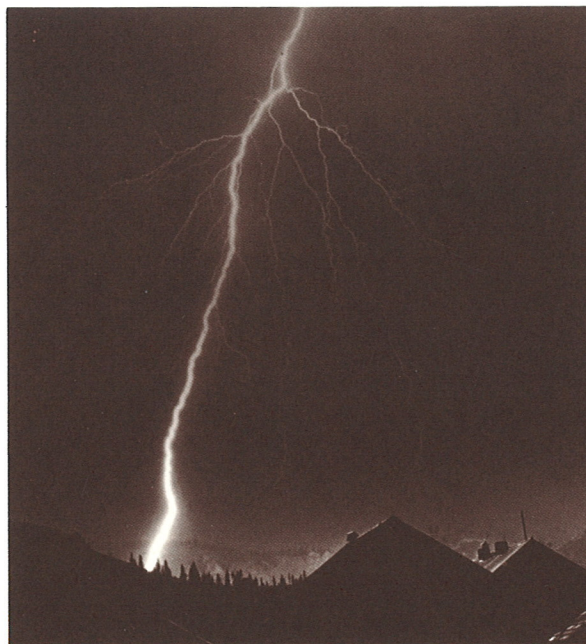




NOAA VHF RADIO WEATHER

is a new and expanding service from the National Weather Service of NOAA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce. Part of the Nationwide Natural Disaster Warning (NADWARN) system, these VHF-FM continuous weather transmissions are designed to speed warnings of environmental hazards to people in threatened areas.

NOAA VHF Radio Weather transmissions are broadcast at frequencies of 162.55 MHz* and 162.40 MHz (see map)** from National Weather Service offices across the Nation, 24 hours a day. The taped messages are repeated every four



**162.55 MHz 162.40 MHz 162.55 MHz 162.40 MHz 162.55 MHz
162.40 MHz 162.55 MHz 162.40 MHz 162.55 MHz 162.55 MHz
162.55 MHz 162.40 MHz 162.55 MHz 162.40 MHz 162.55 MHz**

to six minutes, and routinely revised every two to three hours, and amended as needed to match the changing weather.

Special information is provided for the general public, motorists, campers, sportsmen, boaters, and others who need a detailed weather picture. But the emphasis is on public safety. When dangerous weather threatens, routine transmissions are interrupted and an emergency warning is broadcast.

As an added refinement, National Weather Service forecasters can turn on specially designed radio receivers by means of a tone signal. This signal is



transmitted at 1050 Hertz for three to five seconds before announcements of hazardous weather conditions. The tone signal alerts schools, hospitals, churches, and other places of assembly, public utilities units, emergency forces, and news media to be ready for critically important weather messages.

For listeners in a tornado belt, a hurricane-prone coastal area, river flood plain, a city in the path of continental winter storms, this continuous weather information is making life-and-death differences.

*MHz=MegaHertz; one Hertz=one cycle per second.

**Maui, Hawaii, transmits at 169.075 MHz.

NOAA VHF Radio Weather



NOAA VHF Radio Weather transmissions are intended to supplement, not to compete with, standard radio and television programs. The National Weather Service encourages all media and other disseminating agencies to retransmit the weather information in the public interest, especially where natural hazards are involved.

The VHF-FM transmissions can usually be received as far as 40 miles from the antenna site, but effective range depends on terrain and the type of receiver used. Where transmitting antennas are on high ground, the range is somewhat greater. The frequencies 162.55 MHz and 162.40 MHz lie above commercial FM frequencies, which end at 108 MHz. Therefore, special tuners or receivers are required. These are becoming available in an increasing variety of types and prices. In general, the better the receiver and antenna, the better the reception.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service

162.55 MHz 162.40 MHz 162.55 MHz 162.40 MHz 162.55 MHz 162.40 MHz 162.55 MHz 162.40 MHz 162.55 MHz 162.40 MHz 162.55 MHz 162.40 MHz

NOAA/PI 70035 1970